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Commonwealth Partners with T3C to Preserve 8+ Acres of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge Land

FALMOUTH – The Baker-Polito Administration, in conjunction with the 300 Committee Land Trust (T3C), today announced the preservation of 8.5 acres of land as part of the [Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge](#) (NWR). The newly acquired land will be managed and protected in perpetuity by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) as part of the [Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve](#) (WBNERR). After becoming aware of the property's availability, T3C and DCR worked together to provide the necessary funds to purchase the land.

"The Baker-Polito Administration remains deeply committed to the protection, promotion and enhancement of our the Commonwealth's natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all," **said DCR Commissioner Leo Roy**. "The Department of Conservation and Recreation is proud to foster strong partnerships with dedicated organizations like the 300 Committee Land Trust, enabling our shared goals to conserve important habitats and ecosystems to benefit future generations."

The 8.5 acre parcel of land located at 198 Carriage Shop Road in the Town of Falmouth, which was previously owned by the Teixeira family, was sold for conservation purposes to protect the waterfront parcel. The wooded lot and water frontage property along the Childs River is within Waquoit Bay, abuts a Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Protection area, and is adjacent to land preserved through the Falmouth Land Bank.

"The 300 Committee is delighted to have been able to assist with this important project to permanently protect land on the Childs River and in the Waquoit Bay watershed," **said Thomas Stone, 300 Committee Land Trust President**.

The Mashpee NWR was originally established in 1995 in an effort to protect and preserve Waquoit Bay's natural resources, such as endangered wildlife and rare plant species. The refuge is located in the Towns of Mashpee and Falmouth, where several managing partners, including state, federal, and private organizations, own and manage the conservation land. The 8.5 acre acquisition represents the second time in two years that the T3C has assisted in the conservation of land to benefit the Mashpee NWR.

"The Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge hosts ecosystems and wildlife that both unique and important to the Cape Cod region," **said State Senator Vinny deMacedo (R-Plymouth)**. "The Baker-Polito Administration's conservation work with outstanding local groups like The 300 Committee Land Trust will help protect and preserve these special places for generations to come."

"As former President of the Friends of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge, I am excited to see this land acquisition within the Refuge boundary," **said State Representative David T. Vieira (R-Falmouth)**. "The Baker administration's partnership with the 300 Committee has been strong over the last few years. This public private partnership will be the third acquisition of conservation land in Falmouth since 2015. Many thanks to the 300 Committee and their donors for making this acquisition possible."

"The natural beauty and ecology of our district is our most precious resource and we must protect it," **said State Representative Dylan Fernandes (D-Falmouth)**. "I applaud the efforts of the 300 Committee and the Commonwealth to preserve this unique habitat for all residents in our communities to enjoy."

Additionally, Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve encompasses over 2,700 acres of open waters, barrier beaches, marshlands, and uplands. Outdoor recreational opportunities available for the public to enjoy at the reserve include boating, camping, fishing, hiking, birding, and walking trails. The Waquoit Bay Reserve is representative of typical shallow bay environments, from Chesapeake Bay to Cape Cod.

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The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, dams, and parkways. Led by Commissioner Leo Roy, the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.

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